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N e w s R e l e a s e

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St. Charles Parish Launches Crime Mapping Online

In an effort to stay ahead of crime trends, Sheriff Greg Champagne is focusing his attention to new technologies to assist in his mission to maintain a safe St. Charles Parish.

Launched today, residents can now map out and report on recent crimes occurring near their home, place of business, or their child's school. Crimemapping.com provides crime data via the Internet, empowering residents by providing them with up-to-date crime data. The system even allows for e-mail subscriptions in the form of Crime Alerts, which let subscribers know when a new crime has taken place in their area. Users can also search by address, city, crime type and date. CrimeMapping.com automatically pulls information from the department's records management system every twenty-four hours so the data being viewed is always current.

"A well-informed public has always been an essential element in the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office's fight against crime. Offering crime awareness through CrimeMapping.com is an excellent communication channel between the Sheriff's Office and St. Charles Parish residents," said Sheriff Champagne.

Using an advanced geographic engine, St. Charles Parish's crime data will be extracted on a daily basis from its records management system and current crime data will be posted to a web browser. It will provide the residents of the city with current information about crime activities in their neighborhoods. The Crimemapping.com service is funded by the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office and is free to the public. Residents may access the service via the department's website www.stcharlessheriff.org.

Using this new technology to help identify crime trends within neighborhoods, the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office continues to strengthen its existing partnerships with the community and its leaders, and boosts community-oriented policing efforts.